

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 8-12 are pending in the application. Claims 4-7 remain cancelled. Claims 1 and 8 are amended.

At page 2 of the office action, Examiner states that Claims 1-3 and 8-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 2nd paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement in that the specification does not describe "input operation is conducted by performing a bonding operation along the obverse surface of the curve portion."

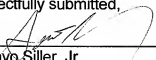
Claims 1 and 8 recite the input operation is conducted by performing a *contact* operation along the obverse surface. A contact operation is described in the application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 2nd paragraph.

At page 4, Examiner states Applicants arguments in the previous amendment/reply are moot in view of the 112 2nd paragraph rejection above. Notwithstanding the mootness, Examiner states he would still reject Claims 1-3 and 9-12 of the application under the combination of the Gerpheide et al. (US 6,680,731) in view of Gerpheide (US 5,861,875). Applicant notes that Examiner has not stated that Claim 8 would stand rejected as well. However, a rejection against Claim 8 is implied because Claims 9-12 are based on Claim 8.

Both Claims 1 and 8 recite that the input sensor is bonded to the reverse surface of a curved portion of a support plate. Neither of the references discloses bonding the input sensor to a support plate. In Fact, Gerpheide et al. discourages the use of any supporting surface for the input device. (col 5, lines 59-62). One of ordinary skill with these references would not use a support plate to hold an input sensor, such as the one disclosed in the present application, in place. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner reconsider the Claims and withdraw the rejections against Claims 1 and Claim 8 and Claims 2-3 and 9-12 because they are based on Claims 1 and 8 respectively.

Applicants believe that the arguments presented herein are sufficient to overcome the several rejections. Accordingly, allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested. Should the examiner deem a telephone conference to be of assistance in advancing the application to allowance, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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